THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2007 VOLUME XXXXVI NO. 8 SINCE 1965

Dream of equality remembered on MLK Day

BY JENNIFER REILLY
Lions' Pride Editor

The beat of a drum and the faint singing of "We Shall Overcome," was heard across campus as students, faculty, staff, and members of the Saint Leo community marched in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 15, 2007.

At noon, attendees gathered in the courtyard of the apartments and marched to the Abbey to hear the strong and inspirational words of Joe Rogers, a former lieutenant governor of Colorado, attorney, and fervent speaker of the message of Dr. King

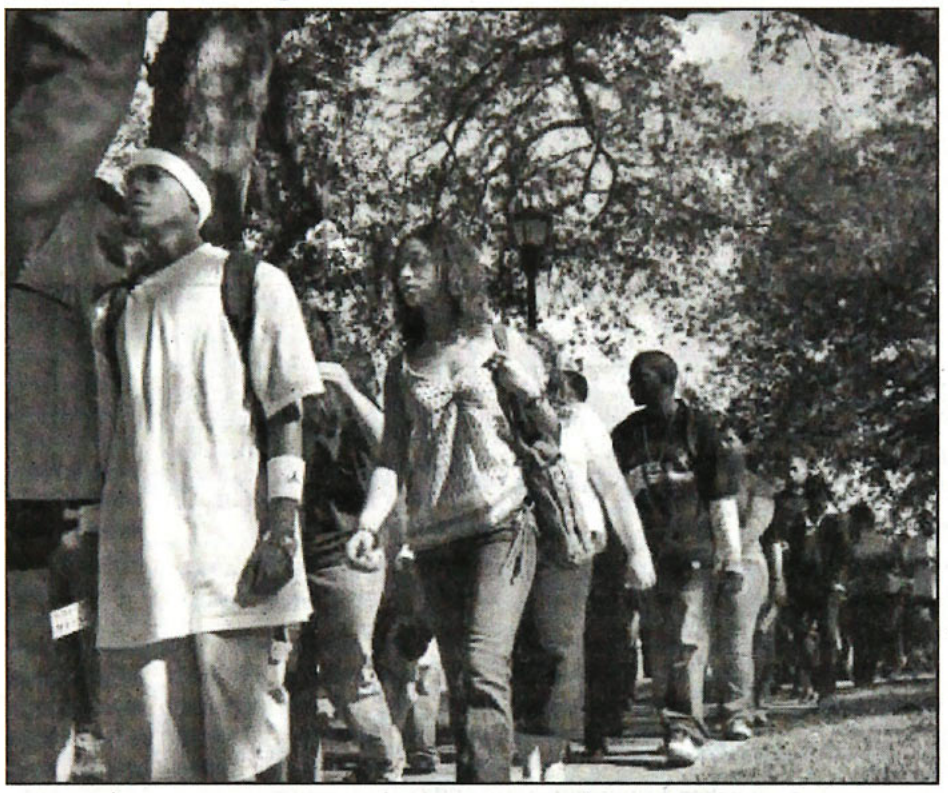
The afternoon was ushered in by Father Michael Cooper who urged the crowd to celebrate their dreams as the spirit of Dr. King was honored. The Voices of Christ choir sang "Gather Your People, Oh Lord," and junior Aisheeda Benjamin performed an interpretive dance to "The Storm is Over Now."

After a welcome by Alpha Phi Alpha President Edson O'Neale, Joe Rogers enthusiastically began to tell of the life of a man called King. He spoke of Dr. King's efforts to fuel the civil rights movement and the substance of the message that brought so much hope to the United States in 1963.

Rogers asked all those in attendance to transcend the vista of time to imagine a world in which segregation was the dominating paradigm, and people were not considered equal. He then asked the crowd to imagine a hot day in front of the nation's capital where musicians, media, and hundreds of thousands of individuals gathered in peace to inspire a new standard of decency in the United States.

Rogers head tipped, his expression grew solemn, and as he lifted his head he personified Dr. King. His voice and mannerisms were reminiscent of the spirit and likeness of Dr. King. His words were those that were spoken by Dr. King on August 28, 1963. The infamous "I Have A Dream" speech has inspired the Dream Alive program, created by Rogers.

The Dream Alive program spreads the words of Dr. King through Rogers live commentary. He verbally carries the crowd from August 1963 to Dr. King's final words in 1968 and through his tragic assassination. He conveys the importance of non violence and tolerance among all people. As a result of his efforts, Rogers has been honored with a "Trumpet Award" from Time Warner Broadcasting System for his accomplishments as an African American who has significantly enhanced the quality of life for all Americans.



Top: Many students, accompanied by the University Choir, sang old hyms to keep the mood of the peace march. The peace march picked up many more students as it made its way through campus.
Right: Rogers reenacts Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

photographs by Brandy Scaglione

Anthony W. Zaitz, former president of Saint Leo College, dies at 90

STAFF WRITERS
Special to the Lions' Pride

Dr. Anthony W. Zaitz not only served as president of Saint Leo College from 1968 to 1970, he also wrote the lyrics to the school song Saint Leo used until it became a university.

He died in Tampa at the age of 90.

Zaitz was born in Massachusetts and graduated high school during the depression. By 1947, Zaitz had earned his master's degree from Boston University and served in World War II.

During World War II, he served as a combat intelligence officer in England. After the war, Zaitz remained in the U.S. Air Force Reserves.

He served as a liaison officer in central Florida for the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, holding the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

During this time, he also returned to academia. Zaitz received his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin in 1960. He wrote his dissertation on the history of educational television from 1932-1958.

Zaitz served on the faculties of Devens College, The University of Wisconsin, the University of Massachusetts, and the University of South Florida. In 1960, Zaitz was a charter faculty member at the University of South Florida, serving as associate professor of English and speech. In 1962, he was chosen as a Fulbright professor of English at the University of Damascus, Syria, remaining at the post until 1964 when he returned to the University of South Florida.

During his years in Tampa, Zaitz was active in radio and television as a producer and host of the series, "Accent on Learning," for Radio Station WALT and again as a writer and producer of the program, "College Kaleidoscope," for WTVT television station. In 1960, Zaitz received a Department of Defense citation for his service as musical conductor and director of "The Kids from Home Show" during its concert tour of Europe.

Music was very special to Zaitz. He loved playing the clarinet and played jazz well into his '80s. He was an accomplished musician and a devotee of jazz and chamber music. He was listed in "Who's Who in the South and Southwest" and the "Directory of American Scholars."

After six years at the University of South Florida, Zaitz came to Saint Leo. He was the chairman of the Saint Leo College Literature and Language Division and served in that position for two years. In 1968, he was elected president of Saint Leo College by the Board of Trustees. During his inauguration, Zaitz is quoted as saying, "I was lured away from the University of South Florida for the opportunity to work more closely with smaller groups of students—to be able to regard each student as an individual human being, not just a number."

Zaitz served as president until 1970, and then he continued to teach at Saint Leo as a professor of literature until his retirement. Zaitz received the Saint Leo Alumni Association's Honorary Alumnus Award in 2005, recognizing his many years of distinguished service.

The Saint Leo community will miss him.

"This is a great loss to Saint Leo," said Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., Ph.D., president of Saint Leo University. "Dr. Zaitz remained a positive influence on Saint Leo to the very end. I will miss his encouragement, his support, and his council."

Zaitz was married to May Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. Young of Lake Wales, Fla. She is deceased. The Zaitz's are survived by four children: Lawrence, Richard, Susan, and Cynthia.

Opinions

Professors can help relieve book costs

STAFF EDITORIAL
University Daily Kansan (U. Kansas)

(U-WIRE) LAWRENCE, Kan. — Of all of the hassles involved in beginning a new semester, buying books is the worst.

This is that dreaded time of year when students go to the bookstore with heavy hearts and credit cards or checkbooks in hand. It is not only costly, it is tedious. If some necessary books are unavailable, students must go to another bookstore. A few grueling hours in the purchase line and several hundred dollars later, the process is finished, unless, of course, students decide to switch classes.

Students with any sort of monetary concern loathe the book buying time of year.

Many students simply find it challenging to afford the average cost of a semester's books, and, while some professors seem to understand the financial strain that book-buying places on students, others do not appear to be too concerned. Obliging students often buy books that are under-used in class, unnecessarily new or freely available through online reserves.

There are ways that professors can help:

Eliminate unnecessary books. If a few paragraphs are all that is necessary from a book, it's not worthwhile for students. Place a copy in the library, but please don't make students buy it.

If it's not necessary to buy a new edition, continue with the old.

If there's any way possible, get copyright permission for a book. Copied materials can be bundled in a package and sold for a flat fee or put online.

Shop around. If the difference between a $60 book and an $80 book is a nice map, students would rather buy the cheap book and Google a map.

Bargain and bid. Professor Craig Martin did this for his biology classes to ensure that his students obtained the best deal possible on their biology books. He is adored by biology students for his efforts.

If more professors used these tactics, they would significantly help students. Certain strategies might even help the professor by removing the middle man: the bookstore. As students know, no bookstore means less pay and less hassle.

Professors can teach efficiently without burdening students with unnecessary expenses. Consider this a plea to professors: We, the students with dwindling bank accounts and wallets, would greatly appreciate your help.

Dear Mom and Dad,

College is great. Classes are going well. I only have one problem. I have to choose between paying for my books or eating. Please help.

Love - Tommy

There's more than one way to protest the war

STAFF EDITORIAL
Independent Florida Alligator (U. Florida)

(U-WIRE) GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Over the weekend, approximately 400,000 Americans marched on Washington Mall to protest President Bush's plan to increase the number of troops in Iraq. Thousands more gathered on street corners and city squares in places like San Francisco, Portland and New York City. And to a much smaller degree, dozens of people protested in little towns across America.

So there you have it. America is fed up with this war — but Bush insists on pumping in more troops, more money, more invective rhetoric about how if we pull out of Iraq, the terrorists will win — and of course, we just can't let that happen.

We could have sworn that when the Democrats took control of not only the House of Representatives, but also the Senate, Bush would finally get the idea. We could have sworn that with his approval rating hanging at about 33 percent, he would catch a clue. We could have sworn that when those protesting power-hitters Jane Fonda, Susan Sarandon, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) showed up at the rally, Dubya would prick up his ears.

But no. He refuses to acknowledge that this war was a mistake and that the American people aren't buying his lies. He refuses to bring our boys home — and plans to ship more troops over instead. And what was he doing during the rally? Going for his weekly bike ride, once again, not addressing the problem at hand.

This is a far cry from Bush's claim of "Mission: Accomplished." The war has turned into "Mission: Impossible" and just about everyone but Bush recognizes that sending over more troops will not solve our problems — in fact, it will probably make things worse.

Marching on Washington is an amazing thing. It shows that freedom of speech is an important American value. It shows the power of number. It gives important issues visibility in the media, and it makes people stand up and listen. In 1963, the March on Washington helped blacks garner equal rights. In 2006, La Marcha paved the way for reforming proposed immigration legislation that would have been devastating for not just immigrants but the Americans who hire them. In 2007, hopefully it can convince our president to admit his mistakes and get us out of the dreadful war.

But the power of these marches comes from big numbers. When 10 or so people gather on a corner in a sleepy town — such as Gainesville — with their posters ("Honk if you hate Bush!") and flags, well, it just doesn't have the same effect. Sure, they may get some personal satisfaction from hearing a few horns and feel like they've done something, But the truth is, they haven't. Only the homeless are listening to them — not the nation or the rest of the world, as was the case for the Washington march. Everyone else — the students, the soccer moms — is in the comfort of their climate-controlled cars or walking while listening to their iPods, with a cell phone in one hand and Starbucks coffee in the other.

Those protesters would be better off writing to their senators. Or taking showers, because they're mostly dirty hippies. The only way to convince Congress that it should deny Bush his troop increase is to effectively show them that the American people will not stand for it. Those who marched on Saturday showed their influence.

It's our turn to write to Congress and tell them that we won't stand for Bush's ineptitude and abuse of power.

Lions' Pride Staff

Staff:
Megan Bonner
Kristin Brittain
Nikii Brown (assistant editor)
Caitlin Craft (entertainment)
Cecelyn Dennis
Alexandra Farmer (sports)
Katelyn Gaiser
Joseph Gentile
Jessica Grubb
Craig Hamilton
Gabrielle Harris
Jason Howard (ad manager)
Amanda Laffin
Ashlee Masullo
Jamie Pascucci
Jennifer Reilly (editor)
Diana Russo
Jessica Swanson
Brandy Scaglione (photographer)
Jennifer Thimons
Evelina Viiri
Simone Williams
Advisor:
Mrs. Valerie Kasper

Write here

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in portable #4, which is on the west side of St. Edward's Hall. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195. Send letters to the editor to lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publich any letter or column.

Bush outlines domestic, foreign poicy in State of the Union address

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Speaking to a joint session of Congress during his annual State of the Union address, President Bush outlined his 2007 domestic agenda, called on Congress to support his new Iraq strategy, and laid out the consequences of defeat in the Middle East.

Bush started the 50-minute speech by honoring Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco for becoming the first woman Speaker of the House. In an apparent appeal for bipartisanship, Bush went on to suggest that a government divided on party lines could come together on legislative efforts aimed towards the common good.

"Our citizens don't much care which side of the aisle we sit on," said Bush, "as long as we are willing to cross that aisle when there is work to be done."

The atmosphere of bipartisanship quickly disappeared, however, as Bush began outlining his new domestic agenda. Though certain items, such as cutting gasoline consumption by 20 percent over 10 years, increased investment in alternative energy sources, and comprehensive immigration reform, earned applause from both sides of the aisle, Democrats demurred when Bush called for medical liability reform and tax deductions to help states provide private health insurance to citizens.

The lingering partisan divisions were most obvious when Bush at first called for a balanced federal budget, a goal cheered by both Republicans and Democrats, but then added that it must be done without raising taxes, a stipulation cheered only by Republicans.

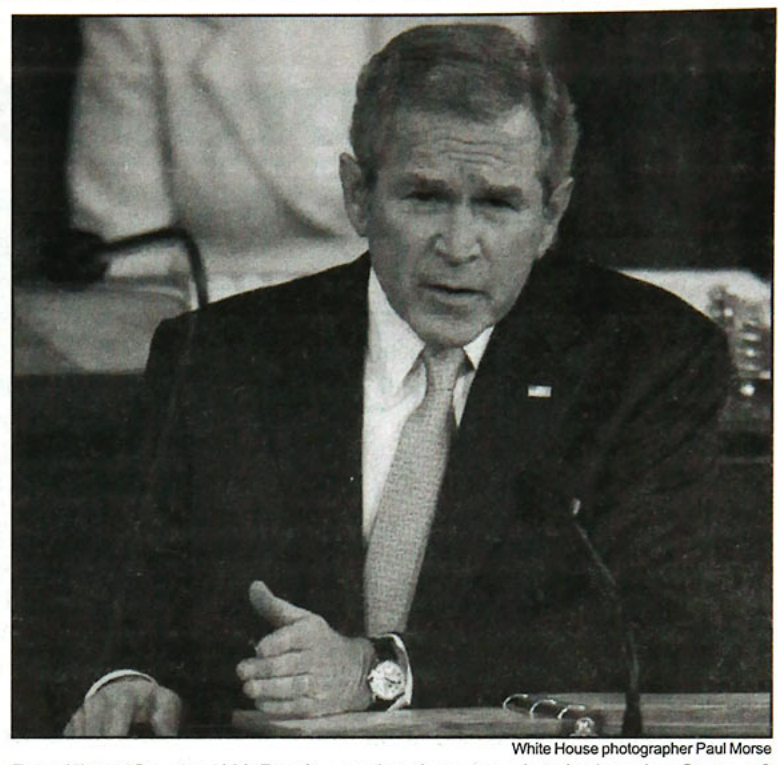
The divisions in audience reaction largely continued once Bush launched into the foreign policy portion of his speech. Though calls to support U.S. troops and intelligence personnel who uncover and stop terrorist activities garnered applause from both sides of the aisle, when the subject turned to Iraq, reactions were more one-sided.

Bush made the case for his new Iraq strategy of deploying 21,500 more troops to Baghdad and Anbar province by appealing to victory and outlining what he called the "consequences of failure."

"Ladies and gentlemen: On this day, at this hour, it is still within our power to shape the outcome of this battle. So let us find our resolve, and turn events toward victory," said Bush. The president went on to remind the legislators that regardless of their arguments and votes for or against the war, "you did not vote for failure."

Bush suggested that failure in Iraq could have greater consequences in the region as sectarian violence spreads. He specifically mentioned Iran's influence over Shia extremists as a source of regional instability that would worsen should the United States leave Iraq precipitously.

"If American forces step back before Baghdad is secure, the Iraqi government would be overrun by extremists on all sides. We could expect an epic battle between Shia extremists backed by Iran and Sunni extremists aided by al Qaeda and supporters of the old regime. A contagion of violence could spill out across the country—and in time the entire region could be drawn into the conflict," said Bush.



White House photographer Paul Morse
President George W. Bush emphasizes a point during the State of the Union address Tuesday, January 23, 2007. He told the nation, "We're not the first to come here with a government divided and uncertainty in the air. Like many before us, we can work through our differences and achieve big things for the American people."

In the Democratic response following Bush's address, freshman Senator Jim Webb of Virginia said the president had taken the country to war "recklessly," suggesting that Bush had disregarded the opinions of his advisors and the military prior to the conflict. The senator went on to cite Dwight D. Eisenhower's 1952 campaign promise to end the Korean War, a pledge he kept once elected president.

"Tonight, we are calling on this president to take similar action," said Webb. "If he does, we will join him. If he does not, we will be showing him the way."

Democrats "First 100 Hours" agenda passes

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Congressional Democrats, led by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco, succeeded in passing all six pieces of legislation touted in their "First 100 Hours" agenda, and they did so with plenty of time to spare.

Counting only the time Congress was in session, the legislation took under 58 hours to pass. Significant numbers of Republican Congress members voted with the Democrats on certain bills, leading some Democrats to characterize the legislative push as a triumph of bipartisanship.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada told Pelosi, "You've made history." He continued to say, "In its first 100 hours, the new leadership in the House has shown America that Democrats and Republicans can work together to deliver results."

Indeed, an average of 62 Republicans sided with Democrats on each bill. The most bipartisan support of any agenda item was on the College Student Relief Act, aimed at reducing interest rates on student loans, which passed with 124 Republicans in favor. Eighty-four Republicans signed on to a bill raising the federal minimum wage to $7.25. Sixty-eight Republicans voted with the Democrats in favor of implementing all of the remaining 9/11 Commission recommendations on homeland security.

However, some bills were much less popular with the minority party: a bill requiring federal funding for embryonic stem cell research, a bill requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for lower prescription drug prices, and a bill eliminating subsidies for oil companies and investing in renewable energy.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland contrasted the accomplishments of the new Democrat-controlled Congress with the previous Republican-controlled Congress.

"We talked a lot about the 'Do-Nothing' Congress. In the last two weeks, we've seen what a Do-Something, Do-Good Congress can do," said Hoyer.

However, despite claims of bipartisanship, one reason the "100 Hours" agenda passed so quickly was because the Democrats denied the Republican minority the ability to put forward amendments to the bills, a parliamentary maneuver designed to limit debate on the proposed measures.

The passing of all six of their promised agenda items is a victory for House Democrats, but only a partial one according to some Republicans.

"Many of the flawed '100 Hours' bills either face an uphill battle in the Senate or are destined for a veto pen," said House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio.

Though the Democrats' legislation to increase the federal minimum wage will likely pass the Senate and be signed into law, other bills may not fair so well. President Bush has vowed to veto any bill providing federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. Bush has also threatened to veto the bill requiring the Health and Human Services Department to negotiate drug prices.

The "100 Hours" agenda was designed by the Democratic leadership to jump start the new Congress with legislation that would both pass quickly and play to the Democratic base. Though some measures were more symbolic than substantive, the College Student Relief Act will likely be popular with the nation's college students—and their parents—who have seen tuition rates skyrocket over the last several years.

Musical Trio treated Saint Leo

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

On January 30, Saint Leo was enchanted by the musical styling of classical work featuring composers such as Ludwig van Beethoven, Igor Stravinski, and Felix Mendelssohn. This musical extravaganza featured a trio of pianist Christopher Cooley, violinist Judith Lee, and cellist Tess Remy-Schumacher; it was free of charge and open to the public.

"Here at Saint Leo University we feel that giving back to the community is important, and that is the reason for the concert being free of charge," said Dr. June Hammond, associate professor of music. Community philanthropists and locals of Dade City, Richard and Jinx Behnke, sponsored this event and have also sponsored others in the past.

The Winter Concert was held in Selby Auditorium. Students wishing to attend the concert were encouraged to come early due to the limited seating and the concert being open to the public.

Saint Leo looks forward to more musical events being held during the duration of the semester.

"As a liberal arts institution, Saint Leo understands the important role that the arts play in the community," said Hammond. For more information, please call (352) 588-8572.

Academic Excellence Day

Thursday, April 19, 2007

A day set aside for the celebration of student achievement.

Many protect this country and pass thei

MEGAN BONNER & DIANA RUSSO
Lions' Pride Staff Writers

So, you think college life is hard? Your day may be filled with attending classes, studying for exams, going to practice, and keeping up with your social life. Imagine juggling all of this and trying to protect your country at the same time.

Out of 14,179 Saint Leo University students, approximately 6,200 of those students are enrolled at different military centers. Forty-seven percent of these dedicated students are female, while fifty-three percent are male. The average age of these students is 35, which means many of these military students have families.

Many students who attend Saint Leo are military. For military students, life encompasses work, school, family, transfers, and war. These are not concerns for the average Saint Leo student, but for the military student, these concerns are daily issues.

You complain about not getting enough sleep and having to get up early for your eight o'clock class, but Sergeant Kristen Trevino of the United States Marine Corps starts her day at 4:30 a.m. Her morning begins with managing accounting records in the Marine Corps Accounting System. She then takes evening classes, which do not end until 10:30 p.m. When she finally gets home, she has just enough time to play with her puppy and spend time with her boyfriend.

"At times, balancing classes, military duties, and family life becomes really stressful, but overall it is nothing that I can't handle," Trevino said. "I can say that my boyfriend gets the least amount of attention which causes some rift in our relationship. I have told him before, my career and my education is number one. I feel that in order for our relationship to work there has to be sacrifices, and he understands where I am coming from."

As a college student, when you get homesick, you can easily fly or drive home for the weekend. For soldiers overseas like Marcus Thompson, who is currently stationed in Hawaii, and Ivory Ricks, stationed in Iraq, visiting home isn't quite that easy. You complain when the internet on campus goes down for a few hours, but those overseas sometimes wait weeks to use a computer.

Although there are many sacrifices to be made, being a military student has its advantages. It can be a very rewarding and life-altering occurrence. Thompson agreed that life overseas is a very mind-challenging experience.

"You have to balance your priorities and spiritual well-being at the same time," Thompson said.

Trevino said being a military student has taught her that in order for it to actually work she must apply herself every day. "It's difficult, but if you want something in life, you have to go out there and make sacrifices in order to achieve your goals."

There are many different reasons people choose to be in the military. For some, it's a chance to see the world, to have school paid for, to show patriotism, or to grow and mature.

For Ivory Ricks, joining the military was a chance to change his life.

"The reason I'm in the military isn't as patriotic or heroic as others. I didn't choose the military; it kind of chose me. The Army was kind of my escape from the life I was leading...nothing too criminal or dangerous, just an escape from a not-so-bright situation," said Ricks. He believes joining the military was the best decision he ever made.

Ricks said one of his best memories was his first deployment to Iraq and how the stresses of combat brought members of his unit closer together. Mainly, he remembers all of the soldiers he has met and how they challenged him to grow and be the best follower, leader, and comrade he can be.

Sometimes, the military can bring soldiers something unexpected. Captain Mack Middendorf of the US Army met his future wife, Kacey Barnes, (now Kacey Middendorf) while in Washington for ROTC Advanced Camp. The two then served together in Iraq in 2003.

"Serving overseas affected my life in that it made me believe that I accomplished something in my life," Kacey Middendorf said. "All of my soldiers returned to the states safely. It made me appreciate how wonderful life is because my unit served as mortuary affairs location that would help transport soldiers back to Kuwait who had lost their lives. It also made me appreciate running water and showers because washing in a basin for months is not fun."

Living in dorms, sharing a room, and sharing a bathroom with others seems to be one of the biggest complaints of traditional college students. But, those in the military live in tents with 15 to 20 other people and sleep on a cot every night.

Kacey Middendorf's advice to students interested in joining the military is to understand what they're getting into.

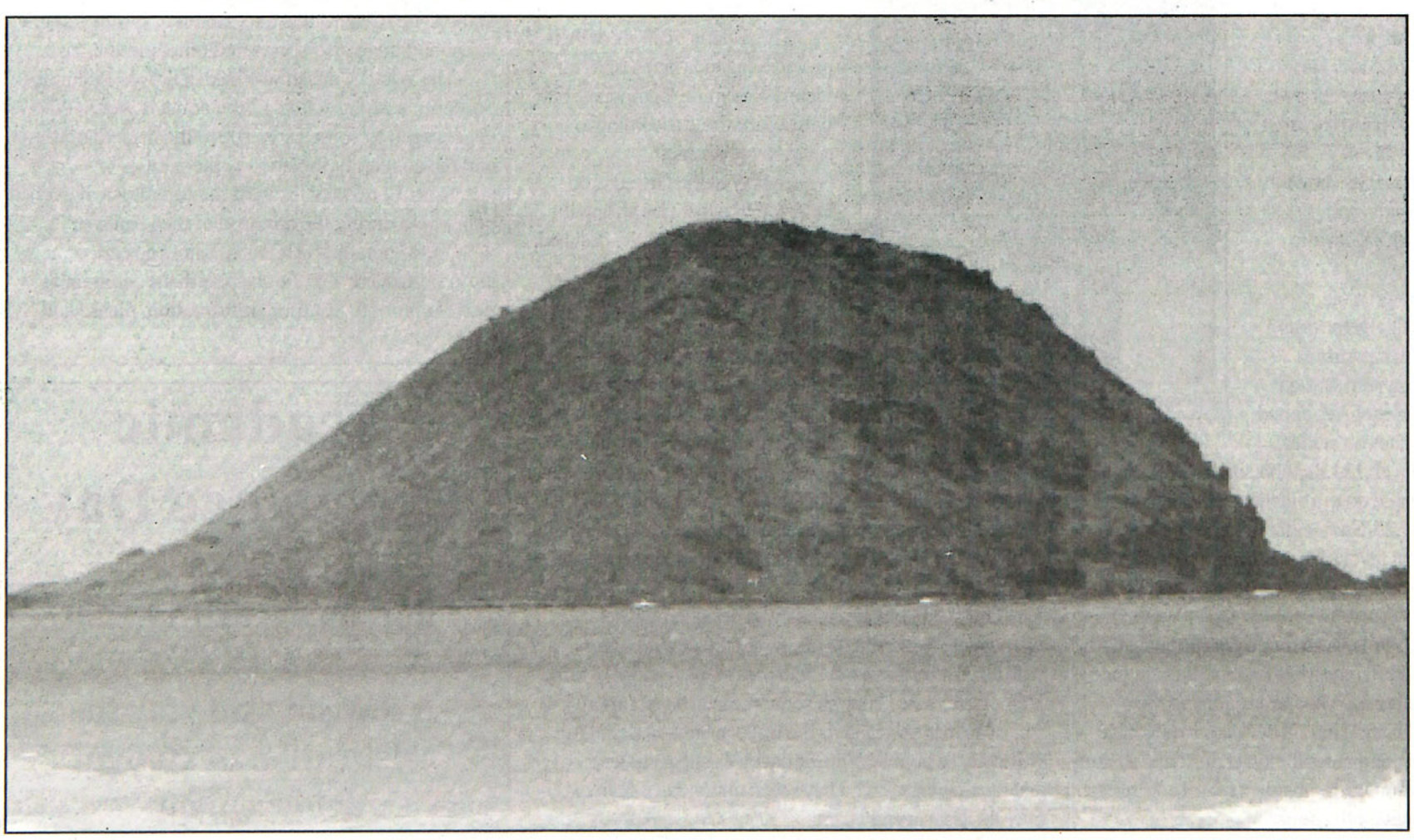
"There will be time that you will have to do things that you don't want to do. You will be deployed to wars, work all hours of the day and night, and you have to be both physically and mentally strong," Kacey Middendorf said. "There is a delicate balance between sacrifice and reward, and you need to know that you are a soldier 24/7 and that family comes first, both your own and your military family."

In addition to the living conditions, soldiers have to contend with the weather. Florida weather always seems to be miserable, but imagine being in Iraq where the temperature reaches over 100 degrees, along with wearing large amounts of gear. Kacey Middendorf remembers a time when it was 121 degrees.

You often complain about the food in the cafeteria, but at least you get to eat a hot meal everyday. Those in the military don't have that luxury.

For anyone interested in life as a military student, there are currently nine military centers across the US. These include centers in Virginia, Texas, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Saint Leo University offers three degree levels: associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees. These can be completed in three delivery forms: on ground, on-line, and blended by three convenient schedules: evenings, weekends, or anytime (by means of online.) The top three degrees include: business administration, criminal justice, and computer information systems. Some Saint Leo students are currently serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, aboard Navy ships ,and in other locations overseas.

"All people should join the military. It teaches discipline and respect for yourself and for others. My advice is just think before you speak and never volunteer for anything," said Mack Middendorf.



d pass their exams

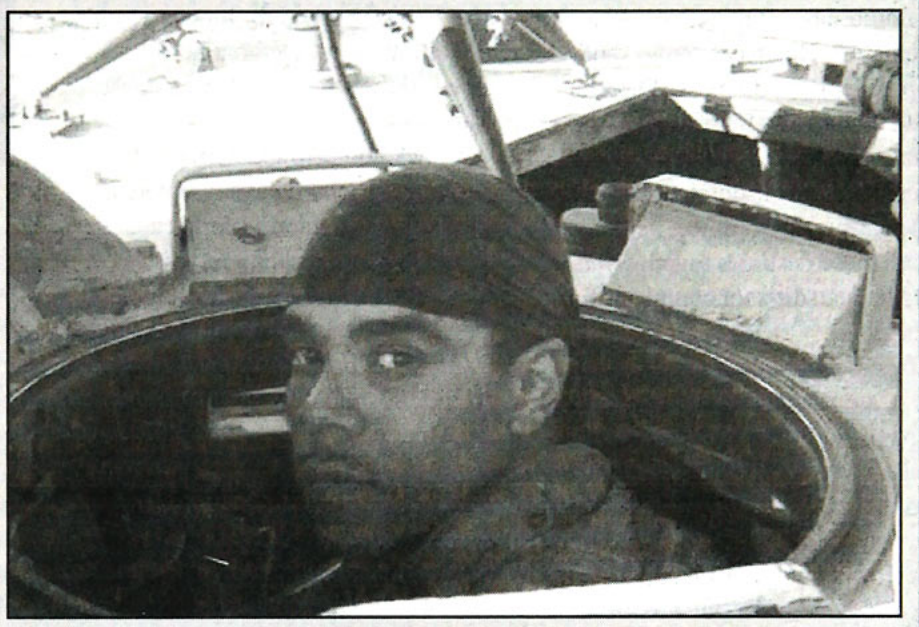
xas, South
a. Saint Leo
levels:
naster's
leted in
d, on-line,
nient
ds, or
) The top
ess admin-
computer
Saint Leo
in Iraq,
Navy ships
as.
the military.
pect for
advice is
and never
d Mack

Clockwise: Mack and Kacey Middendorf both served in Iraq in 2003; Mack Middendorf poses in front of a fallen statue of Saddam Hussein; Scenes like this one of a camel were common place to those who served in the Middle East; Beautiful views of the island were a positive for Marcus Thompson, who is currently stationed in Hawaii.

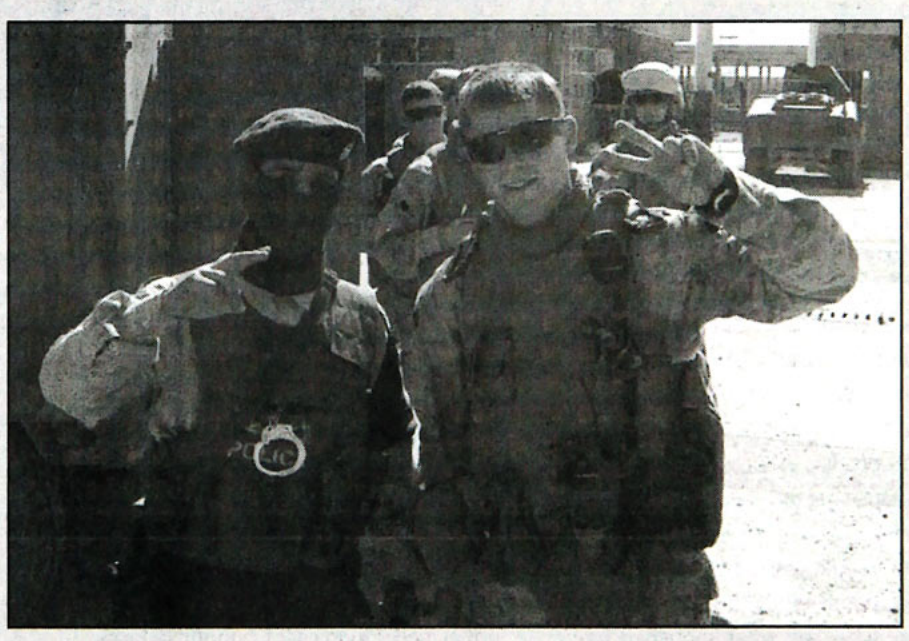
A Salute to our

courtesy of www.DelfinaMosaic.com

TROOPS



Patrick Howard - College of Online Learning - Tank Crew Member



Joshua Smith - College of Online Learning - Fallujah, Iraq - His unit was involved with local citizens, Iraqi military, and police of a daily basis.

Ashley Leavitt - College of Online Learning - Iraq

Arts & Entertainment

BABEL boosts box office bucks with bible blogs

BY EVELINA VIIRI
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

In Genesis 11:7-8, in the Bible, it says God was angry when man tried to reach heaven by building a tower – Babel. He stopped the work by developing different languages, which made understanding impossible. This theme of world-wide miscommunication relates to *Babel*, the movie.

The film throws the viewer into the lives of broken families from Morocco to Tokyo, from high-class San Diego to the poverty across the Mexican border. Time frames are splintered to add to the disorientation. But, pay attention and these parallel lines do meet. Director Alejandro Gonzales Inarritu gives the audience a picture of different problems, in different cultures, in different countries. In this heartbreaking movie, he succeeds to put all these destinies together. The gifted Mexican director completes this brilliant trilogy.

The essential event occurs when Susan (Cate Blanchett) and her husband Richard (Brad Pitt) are traveling on a tour bus in Morocco. Susan is sitting next to the window and a moment later she gets shot in the shoulder. The bullet comes from a hunting rifle that a Moroccan goat herder gave to his sons. From a hillside, they fire at the bus to see if the rifle works, and one of the boys accidentally shoots Susan. Bleeding and near-death, Susan is brought to a small isolated village. Richard phones the U.S. embassy, and the shooting is media-hyped into a terrorist incident. The impact stretches to Tokyo, where a father (Koji Yakusho) who is dealing with the suicide of his wife and the promiscuity of his deaf-mute daughter, Chieko (Rinko Kikuchi), who can only communicate with her father through her hands. The father was in Morocco several years earlier and the Moroccan goat herder worked for him as a guide, and as a present, the goat herder received the rifle from the Japanese man.

Back home, in southern California, Susan and Richard have two young children with a nanny taking care of them. When the nanny returns to Mexico for a day to see her son get married, she takes the children with her. On the way back, they face some problems when they are about to cross the American-Mexican border. The nanny already has immigration problems, and her nephew, who is driving the car, decides to run away from the border police. The nanny and the two children get left behind in the desert.

© Paramount Pictures and Paramount Vantage
Photo by Murray Close

In three different countries, with three different life stories, the viewer sees today's society and its people fighting for different things: a deaf-mute girl in Japan who is trying to cope with her mom's suicide, a poor family in Morocco who is dealing with the mistake of a young boy, an American woman who is dealing with being shot and the news – of course – says terrorist attack, and two American children who are dealing with getting stranded in the desert at the American border along with their nanny, who becomes a victim of the Bush immigration policy.

Is *Babel* heavy going? Not for those who want to see something extraordinary. In the year's richest, most complex and ultimately most heartbreaking film, Inarritu invites his audience to get past the babble of modern civilization and start listening to each other.

More than a movie: It's a declaration

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The Patriot came out many, many years after the American Revolution, same with the incident at Pearl Harbor. So, it came to be very unexpected when a movie of this proportion to come out with this much intensity at the end of 2006, only five years later.

Coming out with a film surrounded by this much controversy, this movie takes everyone who saw what happened five years ago and shows them just one more aspect of suffering and hope. With a combination of painstaking detail and tactful emotion, they keep Hollywood sentimentality at bay to depict an event that is overwhelming on its own.

World Trade Center, directed by Oliver Stone, demonstrates, at its best is about what two men went through under the rubble of the Twin Towers in New York City. Two Port Authority cops, Sgt. John McLoughlin (Nicolas Cage), and Officer Will Jimeno (Michael Peña), go to work just like any ordinary day. But as most know, that's not what it became after two jetliners crashed into the towers of the World Trade Center and all surrounding authorities were called into help rescue those trapped inside, that is until these two men became the ones needing to be rescued.

It is not giving away anything to know McLoughlin and Jimeno survived this ordeal. There would be no movie, or any interest in seeing a 9/11 movie with such emotional trauma, without that hope to keep an audience going. However, some viewers have thought the film should have attempted to create a survival story for the other 18 survivors. This would have given the movie an edge on the television movies that have been broadcasted, not to mention more for the audience to be proud of.

Photo Credit: World Trade Center Official Website

This script does focus on the impact of the wives and their families who were caught outside the rubble hoping their loved ones would emerge from the cloud of dust unharmed. Donna McLoughlin (Maria Bello) tries to keep all the other wives and her four kids calm and away from the news. In New Jersey, a pregnant Allison Jimeno (Maggie Gyllenhaal) is surrounded by the overwhelming thought of having to raise her children without a father. With each passing minute of the movie, each spouse has visions of one another from the past and the future, visions of everything from naming their new baby Olivia to apologizing for not being able to fight through the rubble and come home.

The movie also takes a few sidebars of other true stories from that day. For instance, Stone adds in the Wisconsin firefighters who drove to New York to lend a hand and the ex-Marine who called himself back to duty.

This movie may have left some viewers disappointed, but the event itself can never be seen any brighter than when it happened. This movie doesn't belong to Hollywood; it belongs to people who left home that day, on an ordinary day, living their lives, going to work, leaving their loved ones at home. As a result, this movie belongs to everyone who chooses to wake up and face the day not knowing what is going to happen, but knowing that after that day this country remembered what each citizen means and that unity is the most important element to fight back with.

Albert Watson/Courtesy of AMPAS

Nominations

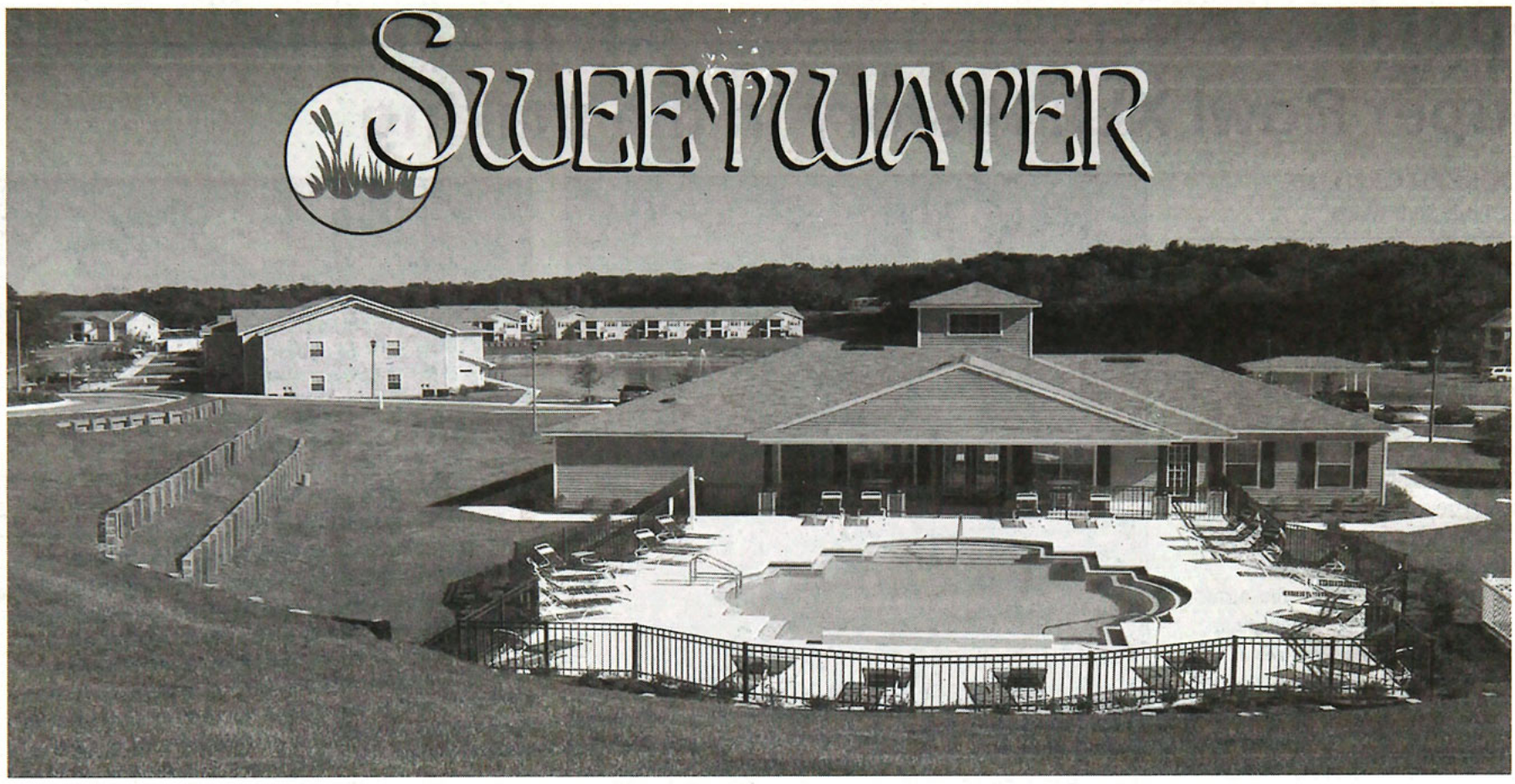
Best Directing- Paul Greengrass- *United 93*; Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu- *Babel*; Clint Eastwood- *Letters From Iwo Jima*; Martin Scorsese- *The Departed*; Stephen Frears- *The Queen*.

Best Actor- Forest Whitaker- *The Last King of Scotland*; Will Smith- *The Pursuit of Happyness*; Ryan Gosling- *Half Nelson*; Leonardo DiCaprio- *Blood Diamond*; Peter O'Toole- *Venus*.

Best Actress- Helen Mirren- *The Queen*; Kate Winslet- *Little Children;* Judi Dench- *Notes on a Scandal*; Penelope Cruz- *Volver*; Meryl Streep- *The Devil Wears Prada*.

Best Supporting Actor- Alan Arkin- *Little Miss Sunshine*; Eddie Murphy- *Dreamgirls*; Mark Wahlberg- *The Departed*; Djimon Hounsou- *Blood Diamond*; Jackie Earle Haley- *Little Children*.

Best Supporting Actress- Cate Blanchett- *Notes on a Scandal;* Jennifer Hudson- *Dreamgirls*; Rinko Kikuchi- *Babel;* Abigail Breslin- *Little Miss Sunshine;* Adriana Barraza- *Babel*.



SWEETWATER

12813 Ware Lane
Dade City, Fl.
33525
(352)-458-0001

- Gated Access
- Lakes, Tiki Huts, and Mature Reserve Areas
- Designer Appointed Clubhouse
- Resort-style Pool
- Fitness Center with 24 Hour Access
- Tanning Bed
- Resident Business Center
- Playground
- Car Care Center
- Private Entrances
- 9 Foot Ceilings
- Optional Intrusion Alarms
- Screened Porches With Fans
- Oversized Closets
- Washer and Dryer Connections
- Garden Tubs in Most Homes
- Attached Garages are also available
- Large Pets Welcome
- Caring On- Site Management

Irresistible Move-In Gifts

When you sign a 7 month lease choose from these Irresistible Move-In gifts:

$200 American Express Gift Card

$200 Gift Certificate to the Apple Store

Bern's Steakhouse
$200 Gift Certificate to Either Restaurant

The Melting Pot
The Melting Pot

Busch GARDENS TAMPA BAY
3 Tickets to Busch Gardens

SIRIUS Satellite Radio
With 1Year Subscription

When you sign a 12 month lease choose from these Irresistible Move-In gifts:

$400 American Express Gift Card

$400 Gift Certificate to the Apple Store

Bern's Steakhouse
$400 Gift Certificate to Either Restaurant

The Melting Pot
The Melting Pot

*Irresistible Move-In Gifts offered for a limited time only. You must submit application and deposit within 48 hours of initial visit to qualify. For Details call (352) 458-0001***

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Sports

Super Bowl XLI: History in the making

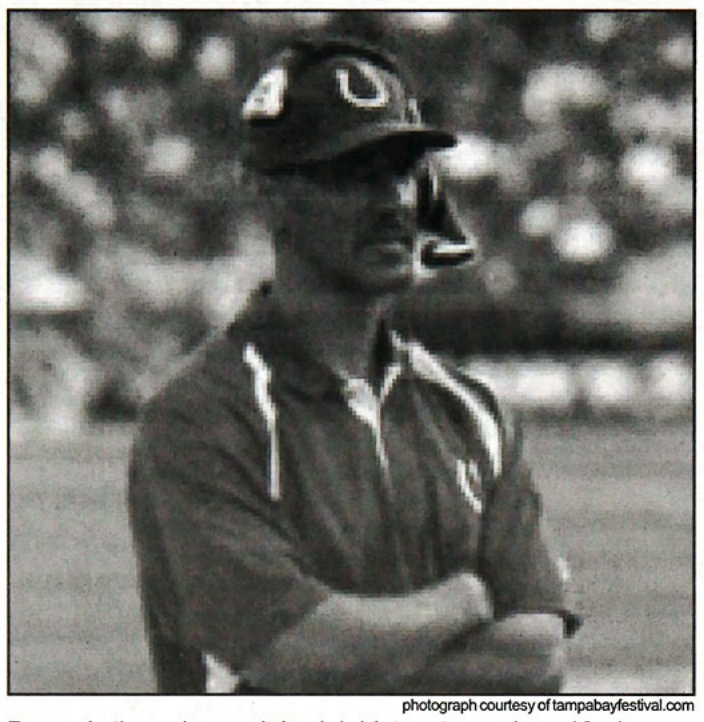
BY JOSEPH GENTILE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The stage has been set for Super Bowl XLI. The Bears and Colts have a date to meet on February 4 at 6:45 p.m. in south Florida. Both teams will be making their first Super Bowl appearance in more than 20 years. This is a big moment for both teams, with the winner walking away with the Vincent Lombardi trophy.

On the surface this is, of course, a big game with two powerhouses competing for a title. Below the surface, though, is something that holds much more meaning. For the first time in NFL history, two African-American coaches will compete in the Super Bowl, and one will be the winner.

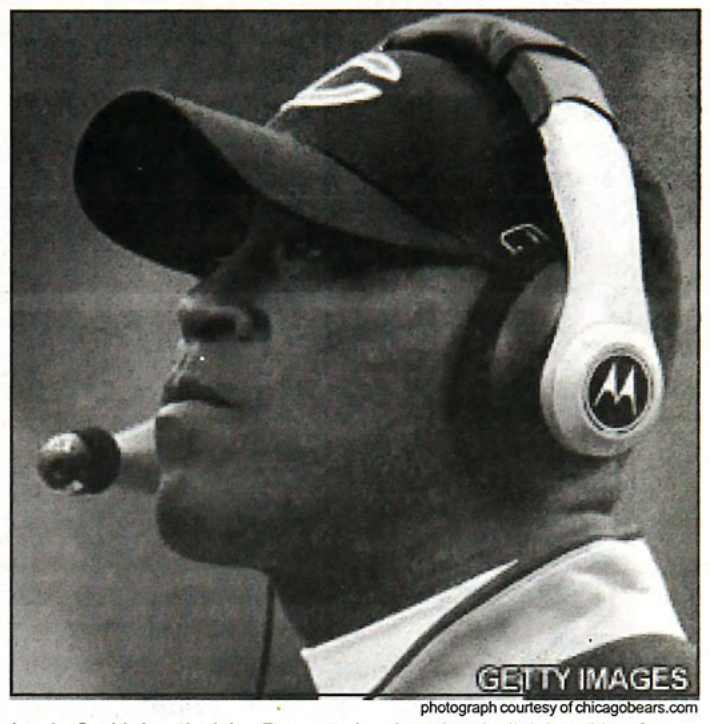
Lovie Smith, coach of the Chicago Bears, and Tony Dungy, coach of the Indianapolis Colts, are the ones who get this honor bestowed upon them. This is a great stride forward for minorities in the coaching aspect of the game. Still, in this day and age, it is very rare for African-Americans to be hired as head coaches. Every sport has a decent amount of African-American coaches, except football. The NFL felt they fit more into the role of either being the players or assistants, never as the head coach of a team.

Former commissioner Paul Tagliabue took a very strong role in helping to achieve equality for all races. Smith and Dungy didn't complain about being passed over time and time again for white coaches. They waited for their time to come when both of them would get an amazing opportunity to show the world what they could do, and look where they are now.



photograph courtesy of tampabayfestival.com

Dungy is the only coach in club history to produce 10-plus victories and playoff berths in the first four seasons with the team.



photograph courtesy of chicagobears.com

Lovie Smith has led the Bears to back-to-back division titles for the first time since they won five straight from 1984 to 1988.

It only gets sweeter for the two coaches considering the history they share together.

Both Smith and Dungy coached together with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1996. Dungy was the head coach, and Lovie was an assistant coach. They both dreamt of something like this being able to happen. The two coaches became even closer friends over the years they spent together in Tampa Bay. Dungy has always been a very calm coach and keeps his team classy. He is a very humble man and doesn't take things for granted. He isn't one of those coaches who feels he has to yell at his players to get through to them. No one has ever seen any of Dungy's players getting arrested or being involved in an off-field altercation. How the team acts starts at the top, and Dungy sets a good example for his players. Whether it's the kickoff at the beginning of the game or Dungy's team is losing 28-3, he is always calm.

All these coaching aspects were instilled into Lovie Smith. Smith is also a very respectable man, using everything he has learned from Dungy and teaching his own team about the respect for the game of football.

When both coaches ended up going separate ways, Dungy with the Colts and Lovie with the Bears, the two still kept in contact. They call each other once a week to stay in contact and see how the other is doing.

It was no surprise the two families got together for dinner before the playoffs began. When the Colts played the Kansas City Chiefs in the opening round of the playoffs, the Chicago Bears had a bye week. So, Smith was there in the stands at Indianapolis cheering his close friend on. Not only is this a great show of friendship, but it also contradicts how other coaches give their old apprentices the cold shoulder.

Now, both teams ready to compete for the Super Bowl, and breaking new grounds. The two of them started this in Tampa Bay and now are going to finish it in Miami.

Smith said he hoped someday he would get the opportunity to play Dungy and the Colts in the Super Bowl, and now that day has come.

Title IX was created just for sports

BY JOSEPH GENTILE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Title IX was the first federal law to stop sex discrimination against students and employees of educational institutions; however, sports were not its main goal when it was passed.

The real reason Title IX was drafted is because colleges wanted to eliminate discrimination of women into higher education: law, business, engineering, and medical schools. Soon all aspects of the college experience were affected by this. Women were to be given equal rights on being admitted into the school and to have an equal shot at any scholarship a man could earn. Any school that is federally funded has to provide equal opportunities for both sexes.

Not many schools paid attention to this in the early 1970s when this law was passed. Even the women in the physical education department didn't believe their students (women) should be participating in competitive sports.

However, in 1979, the Civil Rights Law was officially passed, and it said that schools must have equal athletic opportunities for both sexes.

The 1970s in college sports history was known as "The Dark Ages," where there were 170,000 males in varsity sports programs and only 30,000 females. In 1979, the number of females increased to 62,886, not a significant jump, but some results were coming in. As time went on, though, the female numbers were slowly rising, but the male numbers were dropping drastically. This started to cause a rift between the two sexes in the college sport field.

"Athletics are supposed to be equal to the school's population, but there are much more males in sports than females. We have no control over this," said Athletic Director Fran Reidy.

> No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal assistance.
>
> - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the Civil Rights Act of 1964

As time went on, more and more problems started to arise. To be just and fair, colleges had to start adding more women's programs to be able to give them the equal opportunity the men had. These involved giving away scholarships, buying the supplies the teams needed, giving them good training facilities, sending them to other colleges to compete, and so on. All of this cost a lot of money and as everybody knows, money doesn't come out of thin air. The only way colleges could come up with a fair way to deal with this was to start cutting men's sports. Many of the football coaches spoke out against their programs being cut. They brought more money into the school system than any other women's sport could ever bring in. Of course, the school system knew this, so the football programs were never in any danger of being cut.

The sports that were cut were Olympic type events: wrestling, track and field, shot put, swimming, and tennis. In the 1990s, there were a lot of colleges being sued by women for not offering equal opportunities for athletes. Once this started to gain momentum, schools had to pick between either be sued and lose money or drop men's programs and lose money there too. It was a lesser-of-two-evils option. Most of these sports have returned over the years, but that is because the colleges are making more money now.

Still to this day, many people don't agree on how these issues are handled and carried out. The topic still brought up for argument today is how football still dominates most of a college's expenses. Women's advocate groups have found ways of cutting money towards the football programs that won't make a big impact. However, colleges still refuse to do this because of all the money football can bring in. If a football team finishes in the top 8 of the country, they are guaranteed over $1 million. This is an athletic director's argument, which will always trump anything women groups come up with, because one football team can bring in more money for their school then every women's team combined.

"Money is spent equally between the two sexes. There are more males than females, so it may look like we are spending more money on them," Reidy commented.

Almost 30 years later, and still out of all the college institutes in this country, only 45 are compliant with Title IX guidelines. Colleges can't be fair to everybody; its' just too hard. There are too many people in the college system to make every college an equal playing field.